

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

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SUBJ: UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID'S VISIT TO PAKISTAN

REF: ABU DHABI 1665

SUMMARY: UAE PRESIDENT, SHAIKH ZAYID OF ABU DHABI, HAS COMPLETED FOUR-DAY STATE VISIT TO PAKISTAN. CULTURAL AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED DURING VISIT, AND FINAL COMMUNIQUE ESTABLISHED JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION TO WORK OUT MEASURES FOR COOPERATION IN VARIOUS FIELDS, PRESUMABLY INCLUDING ECONOMIC AND MILITARY. GOP OFFICIAL INDICATED PAK INTEREST IN DEVELOPING GULF SHIPPING INDUSTRY. END SUMMARY.

1. ON HEELS OF ISLAMIC SUMMIT AND VISITS BY LIBYAN AND ZAMBIAN PRESIDENTS, UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID MADE FOUR-DAY STATE VISIT TO PAKISTAN MARCH 9-12. SHAIKH ACTUALLY ARRIVED IN PAKISTAN ON PRIVATE VISIT WELL BEFORE
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LAHORE SUMMIT AND STAYED ON AFTER SUMMIT FOR STATE VISIT.

2. SHAIKH'S SCHEDULE WAS RELAXED ONE, WHICH NONETHELESS PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR EXTENSIVE TALKS WITH BHUTTO AND OTHER GOP LEADERS ON MARCH 9. PROGRAM INCLUDED VISIT TO LAHORE PEOPLES FESTIVAL (FORMERLY HORSE SHOW), TOURS OF SEVERAL FACTORIES, ARMY AVIATION DEMONSTRATION AT DHAMIAL; MEETING WITH ABU DHABI STUDENTS AT PAK AIR FORCE ACADEMY, TRIP THROUGH KHYBER PASS, LAYING FOUNDATION STONE FOR HOSPITAL IN LARKANA TOWARD CONSTRUCTION OF WHICH HE REPORTEDLY CONTRIBUTED GENEROUSLY.

3. MAIN PRODUCTS OF VISIT WERE SIGNING OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT AND OF COMMUNIQUE SETTING UP JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION. CULTURAL AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES IN FIELDS OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, YOUTH ACTIVITIES, SPORTS, TOURISM, LANGUAGE STUDY, ETC., AND FOR JOINT VENTURES IN RADIO, TELEVISION AND ARCHEOLOGY.

4. COMMUNIQUE REITERATED DETERMINATION OF ISLAMIC NATIONS TO COOPERATE IN MITIGATING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES OF LDCS RESULTING FROM WORLD PRICE INCREASES, AND PLEDGED SUPPORT OF MOVES IN UN AND ELSEWHERE TO END EXPLOITATION OF THE LDCS BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IT ANNOUNCED ESTABLISHMENT OF MINISTERIAL LEVEL-JOINT COMMISSION TO FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT MEASURES FOR CLOSER COOPERATION "IN VARIOUS FIELDS" (PRESUMABLY INCLUDING ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY).

5. PAK PRESS, RADIO AND TV GAVE VISIT FULL AND EFFUSIVE COVERAGE. EDITORIALS STRESSED THEME OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION, POINTING OUT COMPLEMENTARY NATURE OF PAKISTAN'S INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND UAE'S WEALTH, DESIRE FOR MODERNIZATION AND NEED FOR TECHNOLOGICAL AID. RECENT JOINT VENTURES IN PETRO-CHEMICALS AND STEEL WERE PRAISED AS WAVE OF THE FUTURE. SOME PAPERS, INCLUDING GOP-CONTROLLED PAKISTAN TIMES, CITED GOOD PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION IN SECURITY AND DEFENSE PRODUCTION.

6. FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR FOR ARAB AND ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT AFFAIRS, SHAHEED AMIN, TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 18 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT WORK ON CULTURAL ACCORD WENT BACK FOR SOME TIME AND THAT DRAFT WAS PULLED OUT AND FINALIZED FOR SIGNATURE DURING OFFICIAL VISIT AS RESULT UAE INQUIRIES DURING LAHORE SUMMIT. JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION, HE SAID, HAD BEEN AGREED TO "IN PRINCIPLE". GOP FORESAW EXPANSION OF COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND HAD PROPOSED COMMISSION AS WAY OF "REGULARIZING" THEM TO MUTUAL GOP-UAE BENEFIT.

AMIN CONFIDED THAT LACK OF EXPERTISE IN SUCH GOVERNMENTS AS UAE AND LIBYA WAS OBSTACLE IN DEVELOPING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PROJECTS. ON THE WHOLE, HE FELT THESE NEWLY RICH COUNTRIES HAD NOT YET COME TO GRIPS WITH REALITY OF THEIR NEW AFFLUENCE AND WHAT THEY WANTED TO DO WITH IT. (ONE SUPRISING COMMENT AMIN MADE WAS THAT PAKISTANIS COMPRISE ONE-FIFTH TOTAL UAE POPULATION.)

7. ONE AREA OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION, ACCORDING TO AMIN, WAS GULF STATES' INTEREST IN DEVELOPING THEIR OWN SHIPPING CAPABILITY. HE THOUGHT RECENTLY NATIONALIZED PAKISTANI SHIPPING COMPANIES WOULD INCREASE CALLS TO GULF PORTS AND SAID THAT, IN LONGER TERM, GOP HOPED TO BUILD SHIPS FOR GULF STATES.

8. COMMENT: IF GOP HAS SUPPLIED LIST OF POSSIBLE PRO-JECTS FOR COOPERATION, AS REPORTEDLY REQUESTED BY ZAYID DURING BHUTTO'S DECEM
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